

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 7557

BILL NUMBER: HB 1479

NOTE PREPARED: Jan 25, 2005

BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: Nursing Home Staffing Disclosure.

FIRST AUTHOR: Rep. Brown C

FIRST SPONSOR:

BILL STATUS: As Introduced

FUNDS AFFECTED: X GENERAL
DEDICATED
FEDERAL

IMPACT: State

Summary of Legislation: This bill requires a health facility to post and maintain certain information concerning nurse staffing levels at the facility. The bill requires health facility employees to wear name badges while on duty. It also requires Medicaid-certified comprehensive care health facilities to comply with the nurse staffing disclosure requirements. It removes a reference to a repealed provision.

Effective Date: July 1, 2005.

Explanation of State Expenditures: The bill would require the Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH) to develop and prescribe, in consultation with the Long-Term Care Ombudsman two staffing forms with the prescribed information that must be posted in nursing facilities. Additionally the Department is to establish name tag size requirements. The Department reported that a regulation specifying staffing requirements and enforcement procedures would also need to be promulgated. These requirements are administrative in nature and should be accomplished within the existing level of resources currently available to the Department.

The bill also requires the Department to conduct random audits to ensure that the staffing information required is accurate. The Department reports that this requirement would be addressed through the current licensure survey and ongoing survey structure. Additional cost may be associated with increased staffing complaints which would trigger an investigation. The Department believes that this requirement can be accomplished within the structure of the existing survey process.

Explanation of State Revenues:

Explanation of Local Expenditures:

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected: Indiana State Department of Health; Office of the Long-Term Care Ombudsman, Division of Disability, Aging, and Rehabilitative Services.

Local Agencies Affected:

Information Sources: Terry Whitson, Assistant Commissioner for Healthcare Regulatory Services, 317-233-7022.

Fiscal Analyst: Kathy Norris, 317-234-1360.